THE CONNECTICUT CAMPAIGN.

Preparing for the Great Political Battle of Monday Next.

A CLOSE CONTEST EXPECTED.

A Foreshadowing of the Probable Result.

HARTFORD, March 31, 1876. ather real working day remains for the Connecti cut politicians before the battle is lost and won. With such a doubtful, wavering constituency it is not an easy matter to determine the exact results in advance. The leading republicans with whom I have conversed in Bridgeport, New Haven, Hartford, Meriden and other places expect the defeat of ingersoll by the popular vote and the consequent handing over of the choice to the Legislature. If this is the result of Monday's contest then the republicans think they have a chance of controlling sufficient votes on joint ballot of Senate and House of Representatives to elect their candidate for United States Senator. The Legislature is, consequently, 'the pivot around which all efforts of cecticut statesmen is centred. They do care so much for the Governorship. English wants to stay in Washwas appointed, ending 1879, and General Hawley, or some other republican statesman, would have no hesi-lation in putting on the Senatorial shoes of the present incombent if he is compelled to "step down and out."

THE FIGHT IN THE TOWNS.

Representatives to the Legislature of Connecticut are cted by towns and not by districts, as in the State of New York. On next Monday 246 of these repre-sentatives will be chosen. Last year there were only 245, but an increase of one bas been made in Thomastown. There are 160 towns in the whole State, seventy of which are conceded as very close. In the latter localities the entire wire-pulling strength of both parties is concentrated. Half a dozen votes in a town where democratic and republican candidates run almost neck and neck might after the entire complexion of the fight. TWO YEARS' STATISTICS.

The republicans gained ground in the last contest, as

Democratic majority. 13 Total..... 241 ndents have generally voted with demo-

crats, so that the majority in 1874 was 39, and on joint In the Legislature of 1875 the figures stood as fol-

Democratic majority. 9 Total.....

the last Legislature has been cut down from the pre vious year by sixteen votes. WHERE THE CONTEST CENTERS.

The doubtful and close towns upon which neither party can have any positive calculation are understood

to be as follows, arranging them by Senate districts:-First—New Britain, Rocky Hill, Newington. Second—East Hartford, East Windsor, Manchester, Mariborough, South Windsor. Third—Avon, Farmington, Granby, Sunsbury,

Windsor.

Fourth—New Haven.

Foth—Bescon Falis, Derby, Orange, Oxford, Seymour, Southbury, Wolcott.

Sizth—Chesbire, North Branford, North Haven,

Prospect.
Seventh—All the towns in this district.
Eighth—Franklin, feiswold, Lisbon, Sprague.
Ninth—All the towns of this district, with the coleption of Lebanon.
Eierenth—Ridgefield. -Stamford.

Seventeenth.—Norfolk.
Eighteenth.—Cromwell, Chatham, Durham.
Nuncteenth.—East Haddam, Old Saybrook.
Twentieth.—All the towns, except Wilmington.
Twenty-first.—All except Manafield.
This canvass of the different towns of Conn

as been made from a democratic standpoint. That party claims to be certain of the balance of the towns not mentioned, but by no means concedes the victory in the other localities to republicana. They wish those put down as simply doubtful.

RADICAL CHANGES IN SLECTING OFFICIALS.

The amendments recently passed to the constitution of Connecticut make many radical changes in the future selection of Saite officers. This is the last year that we are to have a spring election; and the officers going into power on the 1st of May next will only hold

over for eight months. Afterward all elections will be held in November. The Govenor and Senate must be chosen for two years, and the Representatives in the House for one year. One-half of the Sensie, however, will be elected annually, the odd districts one year and the even districts the next. The former, therefore, on the start can serve only for one year; but afterward the terms of the twenty-one Senators will be of equal duration. This adds considerably to the afterward the terms of the twenty-one Senators will be of ready complicated machinery of Connecticut will be of ready complicated machinery to Connecticut will be of ready complicated machinery to Connecticut will be of the old constitution of Fel5 provides for the choice of representatives by towns, and those small corporations cannot be induced to give up their valued privilege of special representation. It is somewhat extraordizary to witness Connecticut, with a population of about \$60,000, sending B48 State representatives to make laws for her wellare or otherwise, as the case may be, while Now York, with between \$500,000 and \$60,000, can only store to support 128 Assemblymen and thirty-two Benators. It official honesty is to be protected by large representative bodies, then Connecticut must be awarded the pain in that laudable undertaking. An amendment to the State constitution must be passed upon here by the Legiclature in a similar manner as in New York before it can go before the people for ratification. The old farmers of Connecticut like the dignity of sitting in the State Capitol, and they are not yet ready to surrender the privilege.

Tacrics of the temperance element have proved most injurious to republican interests in this state. The latter assert that the Legislature would positively have been won last year had it not been for the vote cast for temperance and actions. The state of the privilege.

The operations of the temperance endeates the republican candidate for the Legislature where a temperance man is an interest provilege and th

and he is bound to win."

A leading democratic politican, although not positively denying the insimuation that Mr. English had put his hand down deep in his brocches pocket, scouted the idea that the republican party was entirely idle in this connection. "There was too much racket made about the expenditures in New Hampehire," he said. "The republicans of this State are

Valid reasons are given by democrats and republicans alike for an apparent spathly pervading the present cauvass. One of the main causes is said to be the short term for which the next efficials will be choseneight months—and in six months more we are to have a new election. The republicans of Connecticut have never yet missed fire on a Presidential contest. If beaten this time, they intend to present the same sicket at the November contest. They send twelve delegates to the Cincinnati Convention and have six electoral votes in the final determination of the Presidential issue. Their delegation is unpledged, and on national questions the party in the State always comes together as one harmonious whole. A much larger vote than on Monday, it is also claimed, will be east in November. A falling off generally affects the republican ticket seriously.

ber. A failing off generally affects the republican ticket seriously.

INDEPENDENT LEGISLATORS.

Each year there are nominated and elected four or five representatives in the house who dub thomselves "independents." As I stated before, these gentlemen have hitherto generally acted with the democrats on party measures. But those bushwhackers outside of political organizations can become a dangerous element in a State like Connecticut. If the choice of Governor and United States Senator is thrown upon the Legislature, and that body is so close that two or three votes may turn the scale one way or the other, then the "independents." If any, who obtain seats at the next election may have the whole situation in their own hands. They are bound by no party ties, governed by no caucus dictation, watched by no Argus-eyed partisana. They can vote for whom they please—ingresoil or Robinson, English or Jeweil. With all the other peculiarities which direct the State government of Connecticut; this is a contingency which might arise at the election of Monday. Such a state of affairs might result in a lively canvass on the assembling of the new Legislature, but the "bones" would be divided only between a few "independent" states men. In some cases, however, these "independent" candidates who may not run a "stump" are induced to pledge themselves on Governor and United States Senator in return for support from one side or the other.

Señator in return for support from one side or the other.

THE TWO LEADING CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR, Mr. Henry C. Robinson, who is the republican nom ince for Governor is a man of extensive reputation through the State. He is a lawyer by profession, forty-three years of age, and resides in this town. In 1855 he graduated at Yale College. The class of that year is somewhat noted for distinguished men who have made a noise in the world since crossing for the last time the threshold of Yale. For years Mr. Robinson has devoted himself almost exclusively to a successful practice of the law in his native State. He is described as an eloquent advocate and a sound lawyer. He has always acted with the republican party since it came into existence. In 1872 he was elected Mayor of Hartford by a hand some majority. This was considered quite a compliment, as Hartford is a democratic city. Such a precedent leads the republicans to hope that Mr. Robinsor will receive a number of democratic votes at the election on Monday next.

Governor Charles R. Ingersoll, the democratic stans days deserved and resident for respective stans.

ment, as Hartford is a democratic city. Such a precodent leads the republicans to hope that Mr. Robinson will receive a number of democratic votes at the election on Monday next.

Governor Charles II. Ingersoll, the democratic standard bearer and candidate for re-election is now about fifty-four years of age. He belongs to the 'old blood' of the Nutting State. His father, Raiph T. Ingersoll, was American Minister to Russia under the Van Buren administration. Governor Ingersoll is widely known as a gentleman of high educational culture. His character for integrity and political consistency is also recognized by all classes. He was born in New Haven, where he at present resides. If elected Governor on Monday he will, on the last of January next, have rerved four terms. The democrats speak enthusiastically of the character of their candidate. They say that in all his campaigns the majorities rolled up for him have been much larger than were prophesied Last year the democratic of Hartford, just previous to election, set down his majority in their locality at about 550, but the figures on election day brought it up to 1,100. A number of republicans voted for him in preference to his opponent, Green, who was at the sime so fully identified with the third term doctrine, and also a blatant supporter of the administration during the Louisman trouble of the period.

Nobody on the democratic side seems to contest the rights of Mr. highish to election as United States Senator, in case the Legislature is controlled by that party. This gentleman is rated at \$2,000,000; so this wholeson the first of the majority in the law;" so the rights of Mr. highish to election as United States Senator, in case the Legislature is controlled by that party. This gentleman is rated at \$2,000,000; so this wholeson, which will be addressed by their order to be made and through on the democratic side seems to contest the rights of Mr. highlithman and the first of the republicans win, report says General Jewell would not object to the honor. The

THE PRESIDENTIAL CANVASS.

WHAT A BLAINE MAN THINKS.

The general drift of public sentiment is that the Empire State should name the President, and that democratic and republican candidates alike should come from New York.—New York Herald.

Why Harald, you've more cheek than an "army mule!" The "general drift of public setiment" in your office may be as you state above, but to gravely make such a misstatement subjects you to one of two criticisms—either that you don't know what you are West! young man, go West!" and see what the "general drift of public sentiment" is. You can't win the even if it be true, as you so modestly mention, that "a citizen of the Empire State would do much more for ened section." "How we apples swim!" That the leading journal of the city of Fisk, Gould, Vanderbilt, Tweed, Drew, Morrissey et id owne genus should have the wonderful impudence to speak of the rest of the country as a "narrower and less enlightened section" the wonderful impudence to speak of the rest of the country as a "narrower and less enlightened section" is not strange, but that such a leading journal should expect to obtain and retain political influence by such shameless mendacity is past belief. Pluck the beam out of your own eye and then do the decent thing with the motes that are troubling your neighbors. Every schoolboy in the country knows that your city and State governments are good models to avoid, and yet you talk of "narrow and less enlightened sections." Why, even Indiana, the unfortunate land of Morton and Hendricks, can put to the fore a better man than any of your centennial candidates, including your favorite Pouter Pigeon—I mean General Beajamin Harrison, a soldier, a scholar, a proud and honest man. Ohio, Itlinois, Massachusetts, in fact almost every State in the Union, can put forward a man who "will be too proud and too brave to he," and as that is your principal recommendation for Mr. Conking, honors ought to be easy.

But hold on. I see you explain it all in the following sentence:—"Therefore, if our democratic and republican friends will only remember what they owe to New York, and that we have chims which should not be forgotten or overlooked, there is no reason why the canvass should not be se directed that whichever party wins the Empire State will have imperial recognition." But why didn't you say what you meant, and not dodge the question? Suppose you had said, if either party takes its candidate from New York that candidate will be beaten; therefore, in order to give the Empire State "imperial recognition" (does that mean a republican President?) it will be essential that both candidates be from this State. In other words, let us give the people the nearest thing to "Hobson's choice" that we can get up, and we will cleet our man—i.e. one of two men. Of course you will not publish this, but being from one of the "narrower and less enlightened sections," it will do me some good to send it to you. Yours, contractedly.

ANTI-TAMMANY

ANTI-TAMMANY.

MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE-IM-MIGRATION AND REPRESENTATION QUESTIONS

ACTED UPON. A meeting of the anti-Tammany Democratic General Committee was held last evening in Irving Halt. Ira Shaffer was in the chair and John D. Coughin, Clerk of the Marine Court, acted as secretary. Thomas J. Creamer presented the report of the Committee on Contested Seats of the Fifth, Eighth, Ninth and Fifteenth districts. As the contests had been amicably adjusted the report was unanimously adopted.

The Committee on Permanent Organization reported the names of Ira Shaffer for Freeident; vice presi-

denta, Rufus P. Andrews, Robert E. Roosevelt, Andrew Blakestee, R. McLaughlin, Colonel Max Friedman, Michael Duff, F. E. Ranscom and James Callery; secre-

Michael Duff, F. E. Ranscom and James Callery; secretaries, John D. Coughlin, M. Healy, A. Sanger and M. C. Dunbaum; treasurer, D. McMahon; sergeant-atarms, Patrick Welsh. The report was accepted and unanimously adopted.

Mr. James D. McClellan presented a rerolution "that the chairmen of the four standing committees be constituted members of the Executive Committee." Adopted. Mr. Ruffus T. Andrews presented resolutions expressing the regret of the organization at the news of the death of Judge Alexander Spaulding. These were carried, and copies were ordered to be transmitted to the family of the decessed. Mr. C. W. Brooke offered resolutions,

the same effect and they were received and adopted amid great applause.

Mr. R. J. Andrews offered a resolution, which was adopted, asking the State Central Democratic Committee, to consider as nugatory and void, the action of the last State Convention in declaring Tammany Hall to be the representative body of the party in this city.

The following was presented and adopted:—

Besolved, That the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States deciaring the collection of head money under the existing laws of the State of New York to be unconstitutional will have the immediate and disastrous effect of destroying the existing system, which under State authority annually pretents from imposition, provides for them in sickness and destitution, and aids in the procurement of employment for thousands of immigrants from the countries of Europe. Considerations of humanity and public health importatively demand prompt, efficient and wise legislation, and we carnestly ask the immediate adoption of such laws, by Congress, as may subserve the well being of the immigrant and effectually protect the interest of the State and city.

The Convention then adjourned. The Convention then adjourned.

POLITICAL NOTES.

The Savannah Pres Press sees it stated that Herschel V. Johnson will accept the nomination for Governor of the State of Georgia, and hopes it will be tendered

State, republican), hoists the name of James G. Blaine, for President, and seems to mean business.

persistently declines being considered a candidate of the republicans for the nomination for Governor of

"And Tilden also !" exclaims the St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press (rop.), referring to the iconoclast being abroad among the idols of the democracy.

The Rutland (Vt.) Globe (rep.) believes "that the

people of Vermont are, and for some time have been, heartily sick of a class of so-called leaders who would whisper one thing but were afraid to openly and pubwhisper one thing out were arraid to openly and publicly express their honest convictions because they might, by so doing, be unable to float with the tide. We believe that the people of Vermont have had enough of self-seekers and professional politicians, and were ready, this centennial year, to nominate and elect garity and trickery of current politics, who has no in-clination for public office and who has the manliness stopping to inquire or seeking to know whether the masses coincided with his views or their expression would make or mar his political fortunes. Such a man was and is Frederick Billings. As such we heartily

Conundrums from the Jackson (Miss.) Clarios (dem.):-"Is the republican party responsible for the misdeeds of the men it has put in office?"

The Topeka (Kansas) Commonwealth copies the remark of the Elisworth Reporter, to the effect that the question of who shall be Governor has narrowed down to Cobb. Guthrie and Halderman. "Adams and Evarts" is the Presidential ticket of

Western paper. But don't it sound a good deal like "Adam and Eve?" Sing-

Oh, dear, I grieve, I grieve, For the good old days of Adam and of Eve.

The Springfield (Ill.) Register (dem.) talks about the "good old republican party." "Old" is good. But we rather guess a majority of the American people regard it at this time as only about "'aif and 'aif" at best, The New Hampshire Democratic State Committee

late republican victory is described as "a fraudulent, a purchased one and in no sense represents the honest sentiment of the State." They hope for better things

tains," writes to the voters of the Kentucky Seventh Congressional district as follows:—"I have always regarded it as a more question of time when I should go to Congress and am not particularly anxious to go just now, but the will of the people is a law to which I implicitly bow, and if the people say now I re-echo now."

A New York paper objects to the expense of the Senate investigation of the "Alabama Senator." Very well, turn him out and we'll all chorus-'Damn the ex-Spencer!'--Mobile Register.

HELL GATE'S OBSTRUCTIONS.

It now seems probable that the obstructions to the free navigation of Hell Gate will not be removed by

TRICKS UPON TAILORS.

Inspector McDermott caused the arrest yesterday of two young men who for some time past, it is alleged, have been enriching themselves by means of a neat have been enriching themselves by means of a neat trick at the expense of sundry unsuspecting tailors. Their method of working is given as follows:—One would enter a tailor shop under pretext of getting a suit of clothes made, and while examining the material the second would come in and request the tailor to sew a couple of buttons on his coat. While the tailor to sew thus engaged the first would slip a roll of cloth under his overcoat, and under the pretext of going to get a cigar leave the store. The robbery would, of course, not be noticed until alter the buttons had been sewed on, by which time the thief was out of sight. The names of the prisoners are John W. Meyers and John Williamson. They are both of genteel appearance and good address. They were captured in the store of Herman Abeling, No. 36 Greenwich avenue, where they were practising the trick. The police have been on their track for the past three weeks, but it was not until yesterday that they were caught in the act.

John Crowley, blacksmith, of No. 107 John street, Brocklyn, went to the Second precinct station house yesterday and in rather a quiet way stated that a woman living in the same house with him was dead, and that some one should be sent there. Crowley went away, and an officer was seut to learn all the facts connected with the woman's death. He soon returned with the information that Crowley had told the truth, but that the dead woman was his own wife. Officers being sent to arrest Crowley found him easily. When asked why he did not state that the dead woman was his wife, he said that he "did not think to do so, and that it didn't make no difference anyhow." When asked if he had not iil treated her, he replied that he had once, "Didn't you knock her down?" asked the Sergeant. "No, sir, I did not. Last Saturday she had been drinking, and I merely shoved her down," replied Crowley. He was held to await the action of the Coroner.

FIRES YESTERDAY.

At thirty-five minutes past one yesterday morning a fire broke out in the basement of the five story brown stone tenement house No. 769 Seventh avenue. The engines were soon on the spot, but the flames rapidly gained headway, and for a while it seemed as if there would be a large conflagration. The fire was, however, got under control within a re-sonable time however, got under control within a re-sonable time and soon after extinguished. The basement was occupied as a grocery store by John F. Frank, whose stock was damaged to the extent of \$2,500. The remaining floors were occupied by poor families. They all succeeded in getting out of the burning house before the flames were under way, consequently no person was injured. The damage to the building is estimated at \$10,600, which is covered by insurance. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Early yesterday morning an alarm of fire was sounded from No. 113 West 25th street, occupied as a dwelling house by A. L. Jones. The flames were extraguished at a loss of \$300. Insured.

A fire in the bedroom in the third floor of the four story brick dwelling No. 254 West 25th street, occupied by Bessie Darling, caused a damage of \$200. The fire was caused by a lighted candle coming in contact with the window curtains.

A fire occurred at half-past two o'clock, P. M. on the fifth floor of the five story marble building No. 25 White street, occupied by Schalman Bros., wholesale clothlers. Damage \$100. Cause unknown.

INVESTIGATING A FIRE.

Further investigatiyn was made yesterday by Fire Further investigative was made yesterday by Fire Marshal Keady into the alleged incendiary fire at Bay Ridge, which occurred last Monday morning. Mr. Fundicker's gardener testified that the coachman, Wends, was not drunk until after the fire had occurred, and that Wendt had told him about his finding part of a burned candle in the pocket of a coat belonging to Mr. Fundicker, and that he had told him also that Mr. Fundicker, and that he had told him also that Mr. Fundicker, and that he had told him also that Mr. Fundicker, and that he had told him also that Mr. Fundicker was in the cellar where the furnace was located. The case seems to be a very intricate one, and some time will, no doubt, be spent in further investigation.

A HISTORICAL DISCOVERY.

Where the Declaration of Independence Was Really Written.

MUSTY ARCHIVES EXPLORED.

Devout Patriots Worshipping at the Wrong Shrine for Pifty Years.

JEFFERSON'S LODGING.

PHILADELPHIA March 30, 1876. Among the many places of historic interest of which the Centennial City is proud there are two especially cherished by her good and patriotic citizens. One is old Independence Hail, whence the Declaration of In dependence was first proclaimed; the other is the room in which Thomas Jefferson lived, where the Committee of the Colonial Congress on the Declaration met, and where the immortal document was written. For very many years the old brick building at the corner of Seventh and Market streets has been pointed out for the patriot's veneration as the place

WHERE JEFFERSON DRAFTED THE DECLARATION. The building is on the southwest corner of Seventh and Market streets, now in the heart of the business portion of the city. It is known as No. 700 Market street. It fronts on Market street about 18% feet and seems to be about 55 feet deep on Seventh street. It is built of brick, in the old-fashioned substantial manner, is now four stories in height (although it was originally only three), with small, quaint window nes and massive sashes, and with a high peaked roof and dormer windows. The street floor on the Market street front is a trunk store and the rest of the

This is the place shown to the sightseer as the house of a Mr. Granf," where, as Jefferson himself says, "I rented the second floor, consisting of a parlor and bedroom, ready furnished," in which "parior I wrote habitually, and in it wrote this paper (the Declaration) particularly." This second floor is now used for the workshop and offices of a firm of lithographers, who kindly exhibit it to the curious free of charge. Placards on the street front over the second floor windows inform the passer-by that it was here the Jefferson. A large sign, bearing a portrait of Benjamin Franklin scated at a desk perusing a book, occupied for a long time the space between the fourth floor windows of the Market street front, with an accompanying inscription designating the building as "the birth-place

The appearance of the historic rooms has undergone many changes since the days of the great Virginian. The old partition dividing the floor into two rooms has been removed and a number of rude frame screens apartments, and the curious visitor finds it hard to reconcile the identity of the bustling lithographic

odgings" of Thomas Jefferson a hundred years ago. For fifty years this place has been described and illustrated in guide books, mentioned in historical an-nals and been the Mecca toward which the feet of rev erent patriots have turned when visiting this old city. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania and other emi nent antiquarians have indersed the place, and the ansacred relic. It has stood second only to Independence Hall itself in historic interest.

But a startling discovery has been made. It now ap pears that we have all been worshipping at the wrong shrine. A gentieman who has been searching into old records has come upon a revelation which will agitate leiphia from centre to circumference. The result free navigation of Hell Gate will not be removed by a great explosion on the Fourth of July as they were intended to be. There is a great amount of work yet to be accomplished, and the balance of the old appropriation is not sufficient to warrant the employment of a sufficient number of men to complete the work by independence Day. The whole force now engaged on the excavations does not exceed 150, including clerks and others not employed in the actual duties of mining. The men who are employed at the excavations are kept busily engaged, so far as what remains of the appropriation will allow, and the sides of the dividing walls and portions of the roof are being drilled for the reception of the explosive material.

Excavations were some time ago commenced at Flood Rock, one of the mest dangerous of the Hell Gate obstructions. At present a tunnel fifty-five feetlong, projecting under the bed of the Rast River, has been finished, and other tunnels are being planned. of his eventful search he has communicated to th being about one foot narrower in frontage. The second floor of this building, where it appears beyond a doubt that Jeferson really did live, is now one room, filled with three long tables, on which piles of men's citching are placed. There are small windows, front and rear, flazed with diminutive pause of glass, which may be the same through which Jefferson looked a hundred years ago. The walls, now neatly papered and painted, show what seem to be faint traces of the partition which once was there dividing the space into the two rooms used by Jefferson; and in the old flooring are the unministable marks of the spot where the opening for the old staircase at the side is known to have been face that the room was almost as cheerlees as an anchorite's coil, on the dail, rating day upon which I visited it. The proprietors of the clothing store did not seem overwhelmed with a sea the eventful discovery which had been made, but were as composedly assisting a slovenjar being the relative to the content of the biotorical question of especial value in this centennial year did not seem to agitate them much, even though it shows their shop to be the original Jacobs' and the one next doors of the basement eating saloon where the velgar hash is perturned, and monting crany old steps to worship at the short scholars, but just at they just the sale of the just, at the special content of the ploke, it is as grimly comical as Martine of Jederson, when for fifty years they have been in the wrong shoo! One can imagine the picture of Jefferson on the wall as winking its venerable eye day the worship of the potential of the potentia

[From Potter's American Monthly for May.]

There is no question connected with the history of the Deciaration of Independence which has elected more interesting discussion than that of where it was written. The question has ever been one of no little importance in the estimation of American antiquarisms and exact historic scholars; but just at this jubiles time, when the heart of every true American beats with accelerated ardor and glows with patriotic enthusiasm in the contemplation of each memorial of the events of 100 years ago, and when the mind of every true American is specially intent on the ascertaining of facts connected with his country's earlier history, at this time the question assumes importance in the estimation even of those hitherto indifferent to such questions.

of facts connected with his country's earlier history, at this time the question assumes importance in the estimation even of those hitherto indifferent to such questions.

The best paper perhaps ever written in connection with this discussion was from the accurate, but graceful, pen of Miss Agnes Y. McAllister, and appeared in the American Monthly for March, 1875, at page 223. The writer clearly demonstrated that the house wherein Thomas Jefferson "rented the second floor, consisting of parior and bedroom, resuly furnished," was "the house of a Mr. Graat, a new brick house three stories high"—so much beyond question from written proofs in Mr. Jefferson's possession; and that, according to his recollection, "Graaf was a young man, son of a German, and then newly married;" that "he was a bricklayer, and that his house was on the south side of Market street, probably between Seventh and Eighth." From Jefferson's "dea that it was a corner house." Nicholas Biddie, in April, 1827, declared "that house is now a warehouse in the centre of Phinadelphia, standing at the southwest corner of Market and Seventh streets;" twenty-eight years later John McAllister, Jr., reaffirmed Mr. Biddie's opinion; and his daughter, in the admirable article referred to, naturally accepts the same, declaring "The Declaration was written in the house, still standing, at the southwest event orgon of Seventh and Market artersts."

of a search among the tomes of the Recorder of Deeds' office which he thought afforded

office which he thought afforded

INDIRPUTABLE PROOFS

that "the house, still standing, at the southwest corner of Seventh and Market streets," could not have been the one in which the Declaration was written. We have since carefully tested Mr. Richards' proofs, thoroughly examining the official records and orthoally analyzing the several deeds on record in connection with the corner house and lot and the adjoining house and lot on Market street, and have no healtation in emphatically asserting that the Declaration of Independence was not written in the house on the southwest corner of Seventh and Market streets; that the said house was not erected until some time after the 24th of July, 1777, and after the property had been sold by Mr. Grazi.

July, 1777, and after the property had been sold by Mr. Graal.

We are free to acknowledge that we had hitherto accepted the corner house theory, partly in deference to the acknowledged judgment and intelligence of its advocates, but chiefly because we knew no better theory to advance which so nearly corresponded with the peculiar phraseology of Mr. Jefferson's letter, as quoted by Nicholas Biddle, and from him by Miss McAilister, though we have never been quite convinced—indeed, we have felt that the edifice could not have been a corner house, and this feeling has arisen mainly from the plain significance of some clauses in the letter aluded to. But now we are happy to be able positively to indicate a house, also "still standing," which was built and occupied by Mr. Graff (Graaf), and which is unquestionably entitled to our regard and veneration as the house hallowed by the writing therein of the certificate of our nation's birth—the only house which fully and in every particular corresponds with Mr. Jefferson's description.

JEFFERSON'S LETTER.

Before citing the records let us glance briefly at the letter and consider the probabilities in the light of that letter, recollecting Mr. Jefferson's characteristic habits and mental poculiarities:—

MONTICELLO, September 16, 1825.

DEAR SIR—It is not for not occuping the importance of

letter, recollecting Mr. Jefferson's characteristic habits and mental poculiarities:—

Dear Sir.—It is not for me to estimate the importance of the circumstances concerning which your letter of the Sth makes inquiry. They prove, even in their minuteness, the sacred attachments of our Fellow cilinens to the event of which the paper of July 4, 1770, was but the declaration, the genuine effusion of the soul of our country at that time. Small things may, perhaps, like the relies of saints, help to neutrino our devotion to this holy bend of our Union, and keep it longer ablee and warm in our affections. This effects to the time of writing that instrument I lodged in the house of a Mr. Granf, a new brick house, three stories high, of which I rented the second floor, consisting of a parlor and bedroom, roady turnished. In that parlor I wate habitually, and in it wrate this paper, particularly.

So far, I state from written proofs in my possession. The proprietor, Granf, was a young man, son of a German, and then newly married. I think he was a bricklayer, and that his house was on the south side of Market street, probably between Seventh and Eighth attreets, and if not the only house on that part of the street, I am sure there were few others near it. I have some idea that it was a corner house, but no other recollections throwing any light on the question or worth communication. I will, therefore, only add assurance of my great respect and esteem.

Dr. James Meass, Philadelphia.

Dr. Jaws Meass, Philadelphia. . . that his house was

Dr. James Mease, Philadelphia.

Dr. James Mease, Philadelphia.

Observe—"I think * * that his bouse was on the south side of Market street, probably between Seventh and Eighth streets. * * I have some idea that it was a corner house, but no other recollections throwing any light on the question or worth communication."

Mr. Jefferson was habitually an early riser, boasting that the sun had not caught him in bed for half a century. Had the two rooms rented and occupied by him been in the corner house, with windows to the east and the sun pouring in each morning at its rising, brightening them and cheering him with his early besins, would he have described the house as "probably between Seventh and Eighth streets," and would he have merely had "some idea that it was a corner house?" Hesiacs, if the main door was at the side on Seventh street, as intimated in the paper before referred to [Monthly, vol. IV., p. 224], at which he was wont to pass in and out repeatedly every day, would not the fact that the bouse was on the west side of Seventh street have been more fixed in Mr. Jefferson's mind than that it was on the south side of Market street? Thus we had doubted before we knew or thought of the official records, which, as we have said, Mr. G. S. Richards discovered and brought to our notice and which completely destroy all supposed claims of the corner building, by showing certainly that there was no house on the corner on the 24th of July, 1777—more than a year subsequent to the writing of the Declaration.

CONFIRMATION STRONG.

no house on the corner on the 24th of July, 1777—more than a year subsequent to the writing of the Declaration.

CONFIRMATION STRONG.

We need not cite the records of earlier date than June 1st, 1775, when "Edmund Physick of the City of Philadelphia in the Province of Pennsylvania Esquire and Abigail his wife" "Granted Bargained Soid Released and Confirmed" unto "Jacob Graff Junr of the said City Bricklayer," "his heirs and assigns A Certais Lot or piece of Ground situate lying and being on the South Side of High Street and on the West Side of the seventh street from delaware in the city of Philadelphia aforesaid Containing in breadth on High Street aforesaid thirty-two foot and in length or depth on the West Side of Seventh Street aforesaid One hundred and twenty-four foot Bounded on the East by seventh street aforesaid on the South by a Certain ton foot Alloy extending one hundred and four feet in depth from Seventh Street aforesaid on the West by Ground of Hannah Flower and on the North by High Street aforesaid." The consideration was "the payment of the rent and performance of the Covenants and agreements herein after mentioned and reserved," and the Deed provides for the collection of the ground-rent by "distrein," if not paid according to agreement.

On the 4th of July, 1777, Mr. Graff soid the entire property to Jacob hiltzheimer, yeoman. The description in this deed of the "Lot or piece of ground" and its boundaries is identical with that in the previous deed, with the following addition;—"And Whereas the said Jacob Graff hath erected a Brick Messuage or Tenoment on the said described Lot or piece of ground." The consideration this time was the payment of "One thousand seven hundred and Seventy five Pounds lawful Money of Pennsylvania," to side the assumption of the ground rent, Mr. Hillshelmer converted the first floor of this "Brick Messuage or Tenoment" into a store, and herein he "kept store" until his death, in 1891. His success as attested by numerous deeds showing the subsequent purchase of prope

About noon yesterday a brace of sneak thieves who have of late been carrying on quite an extensive business in West Thirty flith street, succeeded in entering

WIDENING BROADWAY.

Revival of the Tweed Scheme to Fleece Property Owners.

MADISON AVENUE DOOMED

A bill has been introduced in the Assembly to widen Broadway on the easterly side, from Sevente street to Twenty-second street. The first loss on real estate will amount to \$1,000,000, and then all the propefited, by the opening will be fully taxed. The next movement, it is said, will be the attempted passage of a bill to authorize one of the railroad companies to lay an additional track along that part of Broadway up to and along Madison avenue. of the bill are working actively for its immediate passage, while the property owners along Broadway, whom the members of the Legislature seek to "benefit" against their will, strenuously oppose it. Early in March the alarm was sounded among the holders of real estate on the proposed line of devastation, and letters were sent to Albany to trace the origin of the bill. One of the letters was answered as follows:

STATE OF NEW YORK, ASSEMBLY CHAMBER, ALBANY, March 23, 1876.

E. McIntyre, Esq.:—
DEAR SIR-Your letter has just come to hand. I would inform you that the bill to which you refer was drawn by me. The proposed improvement was suggested to me more than a month ago, and, after mature deliberation, i introduced le, considering it a very proper measure. By this mail I send you two copies of the bill. I am, very respectfully, yours. Ac., GEORGE Y, WILTSON.

The signer of the above letter is a member of the on Twenty-sixth street, near Lexington avenue. The other members of the committee are Hamilton Flah, Jr., chairman, and Messrs. Peabody, Killian, McGroarty, Smith of Rochester, and Gugel. With the letter of Assemblyman Whitson came the printed copies of the bill, which have created an impr nong the people that the reign of Tweedism is not over, because a btil, similar in character, was introduced during the last days of the "ring," and when the real estate owners went to the State capital to oppose it they were greeted with the inquiry,

When they replied, "Not a dollar," a general laugh went up from the hungry lobbyists. The question of aying an iron track through Madison avenue has been discussed by the members of the so-called Third House, action to frustrate the efforts of the railway lobbyists it is more than probable that Madison avenue will be tions. The bill presented to the Legislature is as

follows:—

Assembly bill No. 271, introduced March 13, 1876, by Mr. Whitson, read twice and referred to the Committee on Malaris of Cities, and ordered printed. An act to alter the map or plan of the city of New York, and to carry the alterations into effect.

The people of the State of New York, and to carry the alterations on the city of New York, and to carry the alterations on the city of New York, and to carry the alterations on the city of New York, and to carry the alterations on the city of New York, between Seventeenth and Twenty-second streets, shall be widened to the present width of said Broadway at the south side of Twenty-second street. The Commissioners of Parks shall, within three months after the passage of this act, lay out that part of Broadway, and locate and establish the casterly line thereof in such manner that the street shall be of the width above mentioned. The said Commissioners shall cause duplicate certificates to be made out and certified in such manner as they may direct, defining and describing the easterly line of the part of Broadway aforeasid, as located and established by them; and also duplicate maps to be made out and certified in the same manner, showing the widths, courses and boundaries of that part of Broadway as laid out by them, and file one of such certificates and one of such course and boundaries of the Department of Public Works in the proper bureau thereot, and the others in the office of the Department of Public Works in the Broadway and course and the other matters hereby required to be described and shown therein and thereby. The said part of Broadway as laid out and established by them and also man as hereby provided shall be final and conductive as to the extent and boundaries of the said part of Broadway as laid out and established by the said to the said that the said cours of the said the said cours of the said that the said cours of the said that the said cours of the said that the said cours of the said cours of the said that the said cours of the said

their appolutment, to designate the time for the actual ocening of that part of Broadway so to be widened; and immediately after the expiration of the time so designated all buildings and parts of buildings on the line of said improvement shall be removed, and the said street shall be regalized and graded by the department of the city government having cognizance thereof. The said commissioners shall make a just and equitable settments and assessment of the loss and damage, if any, over and above the benefit and advantage to the respective owners, lessees, parties and persons respectively entitled unto or interested in the lands and persons respectively entitled unto or interested in the lands and persons respectively entitled unto or interested in the lands and persons respectively entitled unto or interested in the lands and persons respectively entitled unto or interested in the lands and persons respectively entitled unto or interested in the lands and persons respectively entitled unto or interested in the lands and persons respectively entitled unto or interested in the lands of the Mayor, Alderman and Commonality of the city of New York shall be placed by the acid commissioners to the Mayor, Alderman and Commonality of the city of New York shall be placed by the commonality of the city of New York shall be placed by the parties entitled thereon.

Ske. 3.—This act shall take effect immediately.

The gentlemen owning property or representing the owners on the west side of Broadway, from Seventeenth street to Twenty-second street, and whose names are given below, have joined with those owning or representing the property of the eastern aide of Broadway, and with them will carnestly contest the passage of the bill:—Weat side, commoncing at Seventeenth street. R. Goolet, Mrs. Edwards, W. H. Jackson, Maturin Livingston, — Wood, the Delaplaine estate, Bache Cunard, estate of A. Arnold, R. Goelet, J. B. Dodd, estate of Badeau, estate of Stephen Whitney; R. L. Schledlin, estate of Haistead, Bradish Johason, Mrs.

that interest was forwarded to Albany last week and presented to the Legislature by Assemblyman Forster:—

To the Honomarks the Englarature of the State of New York:—
Gentleman—The undersigned, who are owners or otherwise interested in lois affected by the proposed widening of Broadway between Seventeeth and Taenty-second streets, in the city of New York, respectfully show that they are opposed to and hereby remonstrate against such widening for the following, among other reasons, namely:—

Prest—That such intended widening is not required for the public convenience.

Second—It is not desired by the owners interested.

Third—It will entail heavy assessments upon property not benefited thereby.

Post—It will render the lots on the east side of Broadway too shallow for business purposes.

Proh—It is found that Broadway is wide enough at present (To feet for business purposes.

The undersigned therefore and to the top asset the set in question, and any other of like effect, and your honorable hody may be pleased to repeat and refuse to pass the set in question, and any other of like effect, and your petitioners will ever pray. Ac.

That polition was signed by every real estate owner on both sides of Broadway between Seventeenth and Twenty-second street excepting four, who were out of town. Another petition, to the same effect, signed by the tradesmen and occupants of the buildings is in active circulation, and will be sent to the Legislature within a few days.

The city may shows that Broadway, at Seventeenth afteret, is seventy-five feet in width, and maintains that width until midway between Twentich and Twenty-first street it is eight, live feet three inches in width, and maintains that width until midway between Twentich and Twenty-first street it is eight, live feet three inches in width, on the north side of Twenty-first street it is eight, live feet three inches in width, and the other portion spread far and near along the already overburdened property in the central and upper portion of the city.

BANK ROBBER FOILED.

Yesterday afternoon a young man called the Commercial Bank, of Brooklyn, a asked for a one hundred bill, off ing in exchange therefor ten fives and one fifty dol the apartments occupied by Mrs. Denny, on the third floor of No. 317 West Thirty-fifth street. They forced open a trunk, and after ransacking it left, taking with them a quantity of jewelry valued at several hundred dollars.

LOST HIS BOOTY.

An unknown thief stole a value containing private papers, the property of George Haghes, from the hallway of No. 18 West Washington place yesterday, but seeing Officer Relin, or the Pitteenth preginet, apartmenting, dramped his heety and feet.